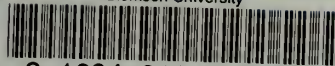


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# Statement for Management

October 1983



## Bryce Canyon National Park

United States Department of the Interior - National Park Service



PB-375

STATEMENT FOR MANAGEMENT

BRYCE CANYON NATIONAL PARK

Definition

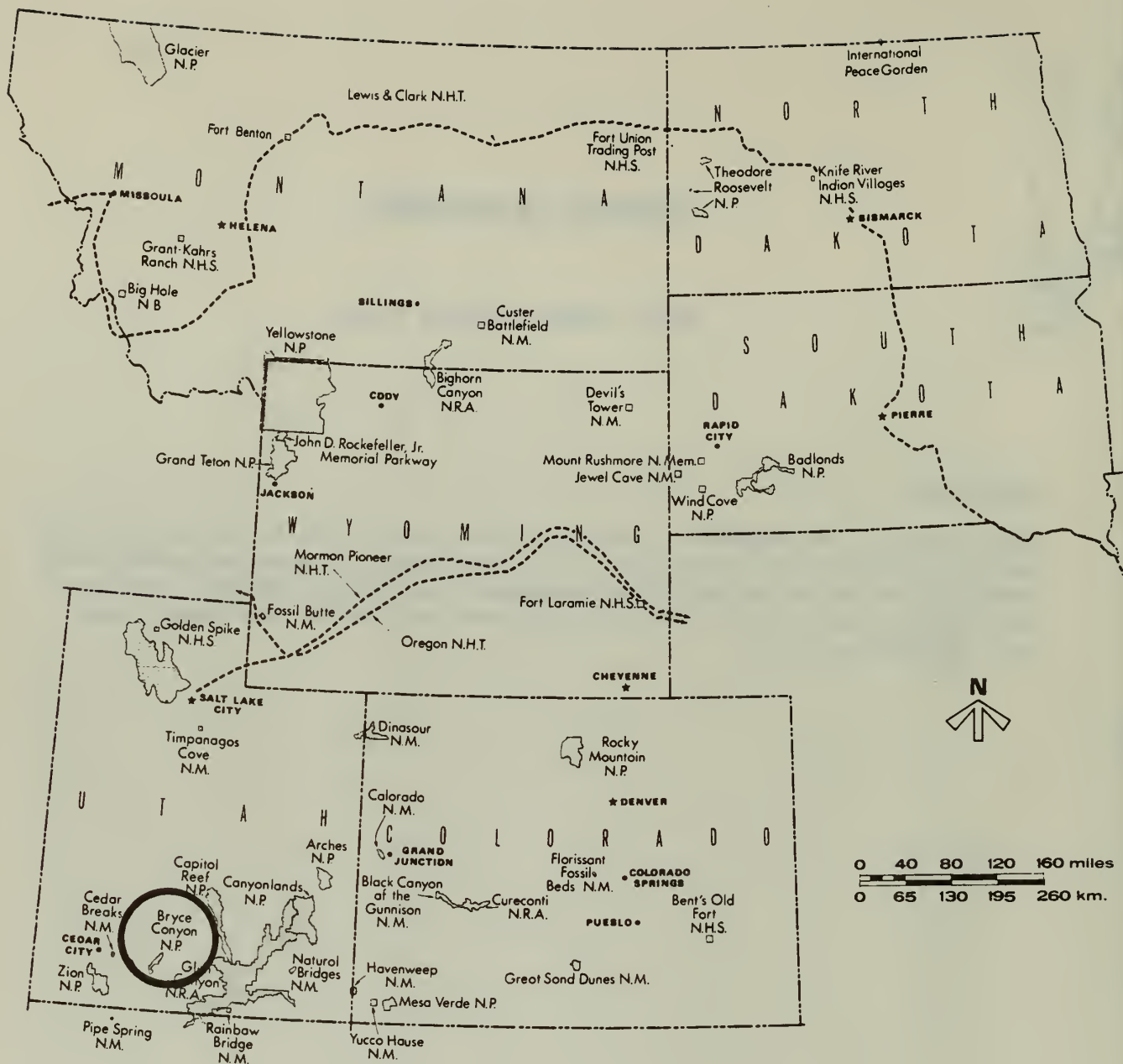
The statement for management (SFM) provides an up-to-date inventory of the park's condition and an analysis of its problems. It does not involve any prescriptive decisions on future management and use of the park, but it provides a format for evaluating conditions and identifying major issues and information voids.

Recommended By: Robert E. Benton  
Superintendent, Bryce Canyon National Park

7/8/83  
Date

Approved by: *James Thompson*  
*Acting* Regional Director, Rocky Mountain Regional Office

10/19/83  
Date



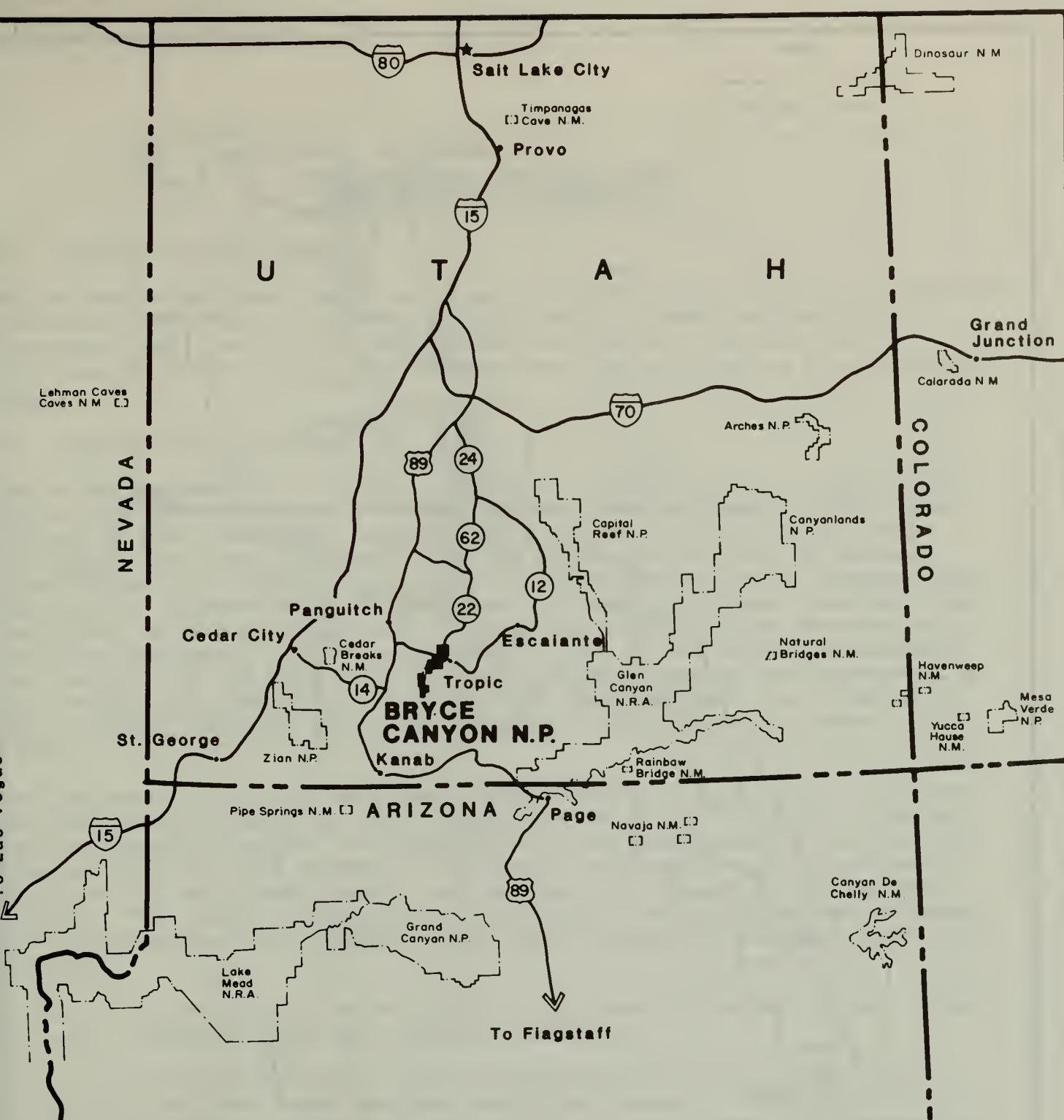
## Legend

- Locations of Major Cities
- \* Locations of State Capitals
- State Boundary Lines
- National Park Service Areas
- National Park Service Historical Trails

## ROCKY MOUNTAIN REGION

National Park Service  
United States Department  
of the Interior





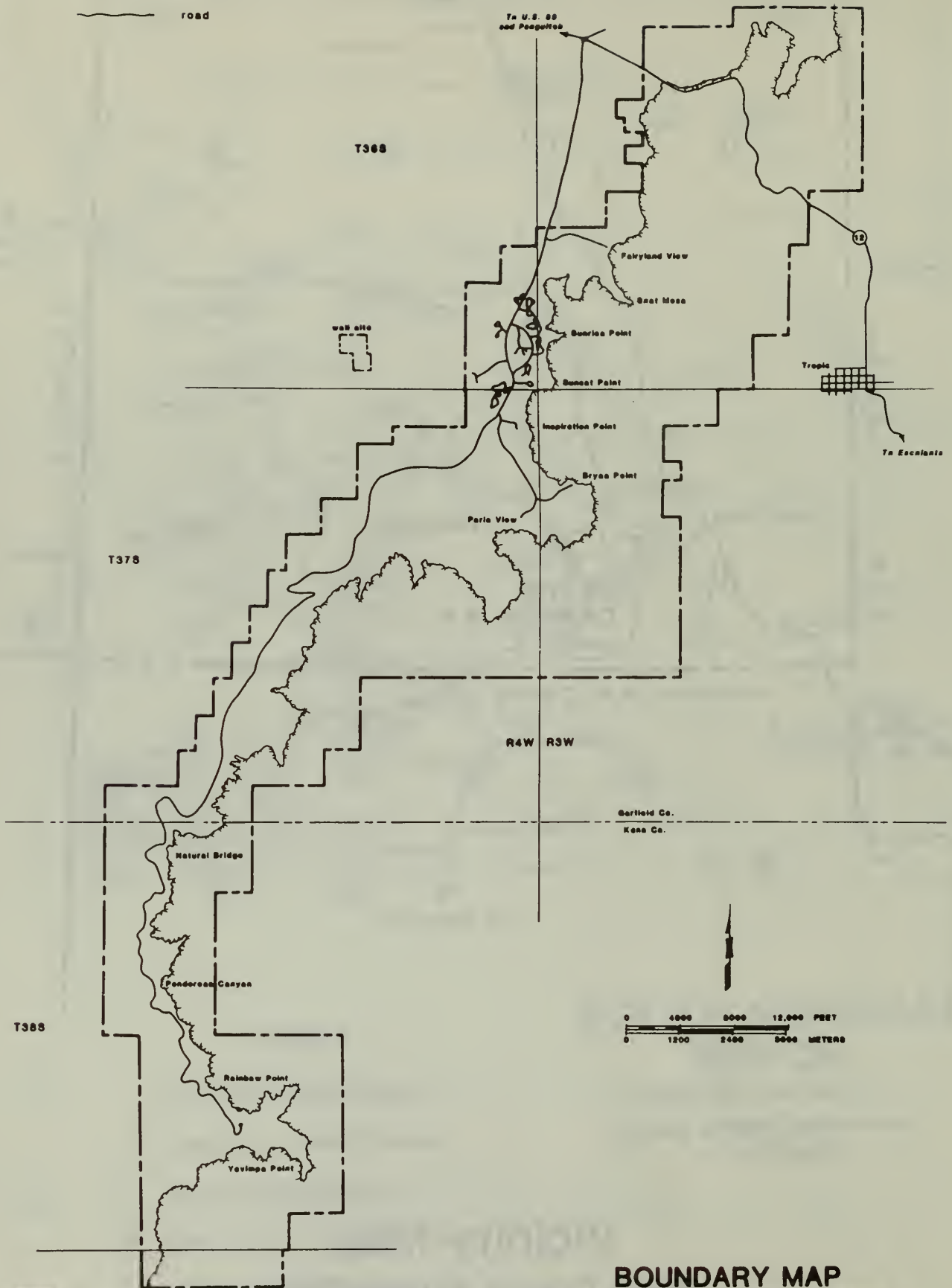
## Vicinity Map

### Bryce Canyon National Park

U.S. Dept. of the Interior-National Park Service

LEGEND

- park boundary
- ~~~~~ canyon rim
- road



BOUNDARY MAP

BRYCE CANYON NATIONAL PARK

GARFIELD AND KANE COUNTIES, UTAH

U.S. DEPT. OF THE INTERIOR - NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

129 80,030  
JUNE '83 RMRO

BRYCE CANYON NATIONAL PARK  
STATEMENT FOR MANAGEMENT

I. Location of the Park

Bryce Canyon National Park consists of 36,010 acres located in Garfield and Kane counties, southwestern Utah, and is a part of the First Congressional District. The location of the park, within its surrounding environs, is depicted on the Vicinity Map on the following page.

II. Purpose and Significance

Bryce Canyon National Park was originally established as a National Monument by Presidential Proclamation No. 1664 on June 8, 1923, that stated in part "Whereas, certain lands within the Powell National Forest in the State of Utah, known as Bryce Canyon, are of unusual scenic beauty, scientific interest and importance, and it appears that the public interest will be promoted by reserving these areas with as much land as may be necessary for the proper protection thereof as a national monument." On June 7, 1924, Bryce Canyon National Monument was established as Utah National Park for the benefit and enjoyment of the people. On February 25, 1928, Utah National Park was changed to Bryce Canyon National Park and officially established September 15, 1928.

As indicated in the legislation establishing the park, Bryce Canyon's, significance is based on its exceptional scenic qualities. colorful and intricately carved rock formations, vast panoramas of cliffs and canyons, forests and meadows, and clean, high quality air combine to form one of the finest scenic spectacles to be found in the United States. The park's low levels of noise and the opportunities offered visitors seeking solitude have also been identified as important park values.

Scientific interest is principally in the area of geomorphology that is well illustrated by the canyon's landforms.

Bryce Canyon physiographic and biologic features fall within the categories defined under the National Park System's natural history themes for the Colorado Plateau and include the themes of plateaus and mesas, sculpture of the land, geologic history, and dry coniferous forests.

III. Influences: Inventory and Analysis

A. Legislative and Administrative

1. An Act dated March 7, 1942 (46 Stat. 141), to correct the description of land and establish the present boundary of Bryce Canyon National Park pursuant to the Act of February 17, 1931 (46 Stat. 1166).



2. "Provided, that nothing herein shall affect any valid existing claims upon the lands herein authorized to be added to the Park or the rights of stockmen to continue to drive stock over the lands now under an existing stock driveway withdrawal (U>S>C>, 6th supp., title 16, sec. 402-F)." Act of February 17, 1931 (46 Stat. 1166), "but if any of the privately owned lands shall be conveyed to the United States or any existing claim, location or entry is cancelled, the land so affected shall become a part of the said Bryce Canyon National Park." (Proclamation No. 1952, May 4, 1931 - 47 Stat. 2455.)

3. The Tropic Irrigation Ditch crosses the Park through Water Canyon. The ditch has been in existence since 1894, prior to establishment of the Park and legislatively recognized. (Act, February 17, 1931 - Stat. 1166.)

4. Executive Orders 11988 and 11990 control any development or planning on possible 100 year floodplains or designated wetlands.

5. There is a concession contract, no. 1590-1-0001 with Bryce-Zion Trail Rides, Inc. for saddle horse trip services and tours within the park, dated February 12, 1970, which expires December 31, 1984.

6. There is a concession contract, no. 900C20039 with TWA Services, Inc., for overnight lodging, camper store, laundromat, showers, gas station, gift shop, and dining facilities, dated January 1, 1983 through December 31, 1983. The process for negotiating a new contract is underway.

7. Special Use Permit No. 1330-4-7001, expiration date May 31, 1984 for a 44,000 KVA power line serving southern Garfield County residents by Garkane Power Association, Inc., Richfield, Utah.

8. Special Use Permit No. 1330-2-7001 to Mountain Bell, Richfield, Utah, dated May 8, 1972, expiration date May 8, 1992, for underground telephone lines to the horse concession facilities.

9. The Garkane Power and Mountain Bell Telephone Company have contracts for electrical and telephone service to government and concession facilities. Contracts No. 14-10-333-274, dated January 2, 1958, and No. 14-10-333-177, dated January 2, 1957, and will expire January 1980 and January 1977. However, they extend unless requests for terminations are made by government.

10. Special Use Permit No. 1330-5-7001, to expire December 31, 1986, to the Town Board of Tropic, Utah, for developing, conveying, maintaining, and repairing the collection and conveying facilities of a culinary water supply system for the town of Tropic, Utah.

11. There is a contract with Garfield County for solid waste disposal services, dated February 27, 1974, for a period of five



years. This has been continued under the extension terms of the contract.

12. Memoranda of Agreement/Understanding between the National Park Service and the Forest Service for various easements for park power lines and sewage lagoon through and upon Dixie National Forest.

13. There is a Memorandum of Agreement executed in 1972 between the National Park Service, Bureau of Land Management, and U.S. Forest Service for mutual fire control assistance.

14. There is a Memorandum of Agreement executed September 27, 1976 between the National Park Service and U.S. Forest Service to develop, use and maintain a waste-receiving station, holding tank, metering pump, and use of waste water lagoons, Bryce Canyon National Park.

15. The National Park Service has proprietary jurisdiction. There is a written agreement with the Garfield County Sheriff's Office. Good working relations exist with this organization and all protection personnel are designated Garfield County Deputy Sheriffs for enforcement purposes.

16. A portion, 3.98 miles, of State Highway 12 passes through the northern portion of the park. This road is owned by the National Park Service and is under a maintenance agreement as contained in a Memorandum of Understanding dated September 4, 1959, with the State. This route provides access to five small communities in southern Garfield County.

#### B. Resources

Bryce Canyon National Park is located in the High Plateaus section of the Colorado Plateau province. The park lies on the Paunsaugunt Plateau. It was set aside primarily for its display of geological features that were created by the dynamic natural forces of erosion. These erosional forces have sculptured a wide variety of colored limestones, clays, and silts. The outstanding feature of Bryce Canyon National Park is the multi-colored amphitheaters of eroded rock beds. There are more than ten amphitheaters (the count varies with individuals making it) which have been cut into the Paunsaugunt Plateau. Each of the amphitheaters has a wide variety of carved rock forms resembling miniature cities, cathedrals, spires, and bridges in an almost endless number of architectural themes. Iron, manganese, and other minerals create the assorted colors ranging from white to dark red.

Elevations of 8,000 to 9,000 feet are common along the rim of the Paunsaugunt Plateau. However, the plateau breaks off abruptly to the east and south in a series of steep walls and slopes. There is great contrast between the colorful lowlands along the eastern flank of the park and the timbered hillsides and tablelands to the west. The lowest point in the park is where Yellow Creek crosses the park

boundary at an elevation of 6,580 feet. Other than along short sections of Yellow Creek and Podunk Creek, there are no other perennial streams in the park.

The crumbly nature of the rocks of the Wasatch Formation is perhaps the chief cause of erosion, but Bryce Canyon's climate assists the sculpturing of the scenic amphitheaters. The nature of its precipitation (frequent torrential rainstorms and heavy snowfall) along with wide temperature range are major factors in the erosional process.

The park ecosystem consists of plant and animal communities which range from the Upper Sonoran at 6,600 feet elevation into the Canadian life zone at 9,100 feet. Three major forest types are represented. At low elevations pinyon pine and sagebrush predominate, on the plateau are open stands of ponderosa pine, and at the higher regions are the spruce-fir aspen forests. Considerable overlapping exists.

Many varieties of wildlife exist within the park. Principal species include mule deer, gray fox, bobcat, squirrels, chipmunks, and other small rodents. Seen occasionally are cougar and black bear. Due to the long, narrow configuration of the park, resident populations of large mammals are not found inside. The endangered whitetail prairie dog was reintroduced to Bryce Canyon National Park in 1975. Over 164 species of birds have been sighted in the Bryce Canyon area, and the bald eagle is known to inhabit the park during transient periods. The endangered peregrine falcon nests in the park.

Bryce Canyon National Park is composed of numerous spectacular amphitheaters cut into the Pink Cliffs on the eastern edge of the Paunsaugunt Plateau. Along this 20-mile escarpment, water erosion has carved a multitude of delicate ridges, pinnacles, spires, and monuments from the soft limestones of the Wasatch Formation.

Bryce Canyon National park and the other High Plateaus in this section of the Colorado Plateau are the highest step on a vast stair-like series of tablelands in southern Utah and northern Arizona. Pink Wasatch limestones cap the Paunsaugunt Plateau, as well as the Markagunt and Aquarius Plateaus to the west and east. South of the park the land falls away in a grand succession of cliffs, exposing rock strata representing nearly the entire spectrum of geologic time.

The intricate badland forms of Bryce Canyon National Park are mainly the work of running water, cutting down through hard and soft strata, along an extensive system of vertical cracks called joints. Water from summer storms and melting snow widens and deepens joints into canyons.

Differences in rock hardness account for the minor topographic features of the badlands. Colors due to mineral oxides in the rock are a distinctive characteristic of these badlands.



The earliest evidence of human presence in the Bryce Canyon area is that of the Basket Maker culture. The Basket Markers, as well as the Pueblo Indians whose civilization followed, lived in the lower, warmer valleys east of Bryce Canyon. They both may have hunted and gathered food within the park area. The more recent Paiute Indians also passed through the area in search of game and food.

The historic resources of the park are associated with the period of early park development in the late 1920's and early 1930's. There are two historic districts that include buildings that are historically and architecturally significant.

Utah State law provides for the appropriation of rights to surface and ground water. The United States has perfected ownership rights only to Yovimpa Spring, the Headquarters Well, Shaker Spring, Trough Spring, and the East Creek Wells.

The Tropic and East Fork Irrigation Company maintains the Tropic Ditch through a portion of the park. There have been relatively few problems associated with maintenance of that section of the ditch passing through the park. The same irrigation company owns the water rights to Bryce Spring, a portion being located within the park. It also claims diligent rights to all of the water rising in Tropic Canyon. Pressures have been, and will continue to be, exerted for further development of the Tropic Canyon water.

Most vegetated zones within the major visitor use areas are impacted and worn due to heavy visitor use. This visitor use impact has also accelerated the erosional process and in some instances increased canyon rim recession. A cyclic stabilization program has been instated to mitigate these impacts and appears to be effective at the present time.

Although bentonite is prevalent in certain of the sedimentary layers below the rim, it has not proven a problem in construction above the rim.

Soil conditions in the several east slope drainages frequently menace the park trails in the spring thaw and summer rainy periods. Soil and moisture control devices are maintained in areas of the park to reclaim badly eroded areas that resulted from past overgrazing by domestic stock.

The park and the surrounding area have exceptionally high air quality. Visibility commonly exceeds 200 kilometers. Background data on visibility is obtained through a long-term monitoring program.

At least 10 species of threatened plants are found in the park. The exact distribution, populations and habitat requirements of these species are not known.

The endangered peregrine falcon and Utah prairie dog are present in the park. Additional information is needed on these species before

any management actions are undertaken.

Cattle trespass occurs regularly. Two unofficial stock driveways are used to permit cattle movement between summer and winter ranges.

Park forests have been completely protected from natural fires for the past 50 years, resulting in a high buildup of fuels and a significant reduction of understory species.

Twenty-six prehistoric sites have been recorded in these areas. A formal evaluation to determine their significance and eligibility for inclusion to the National Register of Historic Places has not yet been undertaken. Ethnohistorical information suggests seasonal activity in the park area by aboriginal groups during the historic period. Only a small portion of the park has been surveyed for archeological remains.

### C. Land Uses and Trends

There is one small tract located within the northern part of the park consisting of 2.5 acres of private land. In addition, there is an outstanding mineral ownership held by the Salt Lake Railroad on a 100 acre parcel owned by the National Park Service and used as a culinary water supply. Attempts are currently underway to extinguish this ownership.

The park is almost completely surrounded by Federal lands. The U.S. Forest Service, Dixie National Forest, is the largest landholder, with the Bureau of Land Management, the State of Utah and private holdings following, in that order. Timber products production, grazing, and resort operations are the largest industries adjacent to the park. The population of the two counties is small; Garfield County, 3,660 and Kane County, 4,024, in 1981.

Bryce Canyon National Park throughout its history, has traditionally been thought of as a rural oriented national park. It is well known nationally, and traditionally has been of considerable influence on the State tourism business. In more recent years the park has become one of the focal points for international visitors entering through California and is combined with Grand Canyon National Park (North Rim) and Zion National Park, as a regional destination not only for individual automobiles, but tour groups as well.

The main access to the park is by U.S. Highway 89 and State Highway 12 with minor access by means of State Highway 22.

Within a 150 mile radius there are several recreational areas, including:

Grand Canyon National Park, Arizona; Glen Canyon National Recreation Area, Arizona and Utah; Pipe Spring National Monument, Arizona; Zion National Park, Utah; Capitol Reef National Park, Utah; Canyonlands National Park, Utah; Natural Bridges National Monument, Utah; Lake Mead National Recreation Area, Nevada and Arizona; Kodachrome Basin



State Reserve, Utah; Anasazi Indian Village State Historical Monument, Utah; Newspaper Rock State Historical Monument, Dead Horse Point State Park, Goblin Valley State Reserve, Otter Creek Lake State Beach, Coral Pink Sand Dunes State Reserve, Dixie National Forest, Fish Lake National Forest, Bureau of Land Management Resource Lands, Bureau of Land Management's Paria Primitive Area, Manti-LaSal National Forest, Utah; Lehman Caves National Monument, Nevada; Goosenecks State Reserve, Utah; Navajo Tribal Park, Arizona; Cedar Breaks National Monument, Utah; and Kaibab National Forest, Arizona.

Within this 150 mile radius there is a population of approximately 130,000 people. A number of large metropolitan areas are within a day's drive of the park and include such cities as Ogden, Salt Lake City, Orem and Provo in Utah; Las Vegas, Nevada; and Flagstaff, Arizona.

Public transportation in the immediate vicinity of the park is virtually nonexistent except for north-south bus transportation through Panguitch, Utah. Cedar City, Utah is served by Skywest Airlines, as well as by bus service. Rental cars are available in Cedar City, some 80 miles from the park. Bryce Canyon Airfield, located adjacent to the north boundary of the park, has no scheduled air service. Mini-bus service is regularly scheduled during the summer months between Cedar City, Panguitch, Bryce, Zion, and the North Rim of the Grand Canyon. Although primarily catering to organized tour groups, the Color Country Tours will provide individual transportation to the parks. Information early in 1983 indicates that additional tour opportunities will exist from Las Vegas and Mesquite, Nevada, and Cedar City and Brian Head, Utah, beginning the summer of 1983.

Bryce is part of the "golden circle" of national parks that are included in southern Utah and as such are receiving considerable high levels of media and citizen interest because this area contains some of the larger energy reserves in the United States. These energy reserves are creating a demand for energy related industry to move into this region. Various large coal fired generating plants have been either built or proposed within the area. The Kaiparowits plant proposal created considerable controversy several years ago and is currently again being considered. If developed this plant may create a negative influence on Bryce Canyon. In conjunction with the proposed plants, power transmission lines, railroads, coal slurry lines, new or expanded communities, and coal mines (open pit and underground) may become a reality. These developments may well affect Bryce Canyon National Park. The overview of the park may be adversely affected through reduced visibility, air pollution, plant structures, railroad lines, transmission lines, slurry lines, etc. Undoubtedly the silence and solitude, so profound at Bryce, would be adversely affected. An unknown factor at present is the effect of the chemical emissions on the natural environment that would result from existing and proposed energy developments.

The impact on the park resulting from an increase in population of an estimated 30,000 or more newcomers in the immediate three-county

area, which now has a population of 7,000 is also an unknown factor.

There are many fine recreational opportunities in the region. There are numerous reservoirs, such as Tropic, Otter Creek, and Panguitch Lake, all used for irrigation. Most have been developed for recreation by the State or U.S. Forest Service. Glen Canyon National Recreation Area, to the south, is a major tourist attraction in the region. Activities include boating, fishing, swimming, water skiing, camping, and picnicking.

The National Forests and other Federal lands offer opportunities for hunting, backpacking, stream fishing, camping, rockhounding, snowmobiling, etc.

The Utah Travel council and TWA Services, Inc., continue to promote tourism to southern Utah.

D. Visitor Use Analysis

VISITOR ACTIVITIES AT BRYCE CANYON NATIONAL PARK

(Percentage of Visitors Surveyed, 1980)

Activity	Percentage of Survey Respondents
Photography	70.9
Took a scenic drive only	69.6
Hiked on specified trail	58.9
Camped at developed campsites	35.1
Visited concessioner's curio shop	32.6
Picnicked	28.5
Concessioner's restaurant	26.3
Nature study	19.7
Attended campfire programs	14.6
Took an interpretive walk	15.4
Attended special programs	14.6
Stayed in concessioner's cabins	10.7
Hiked or camped in the backcountry	6.4
Took a horseback ride	5.6
Other	5.8

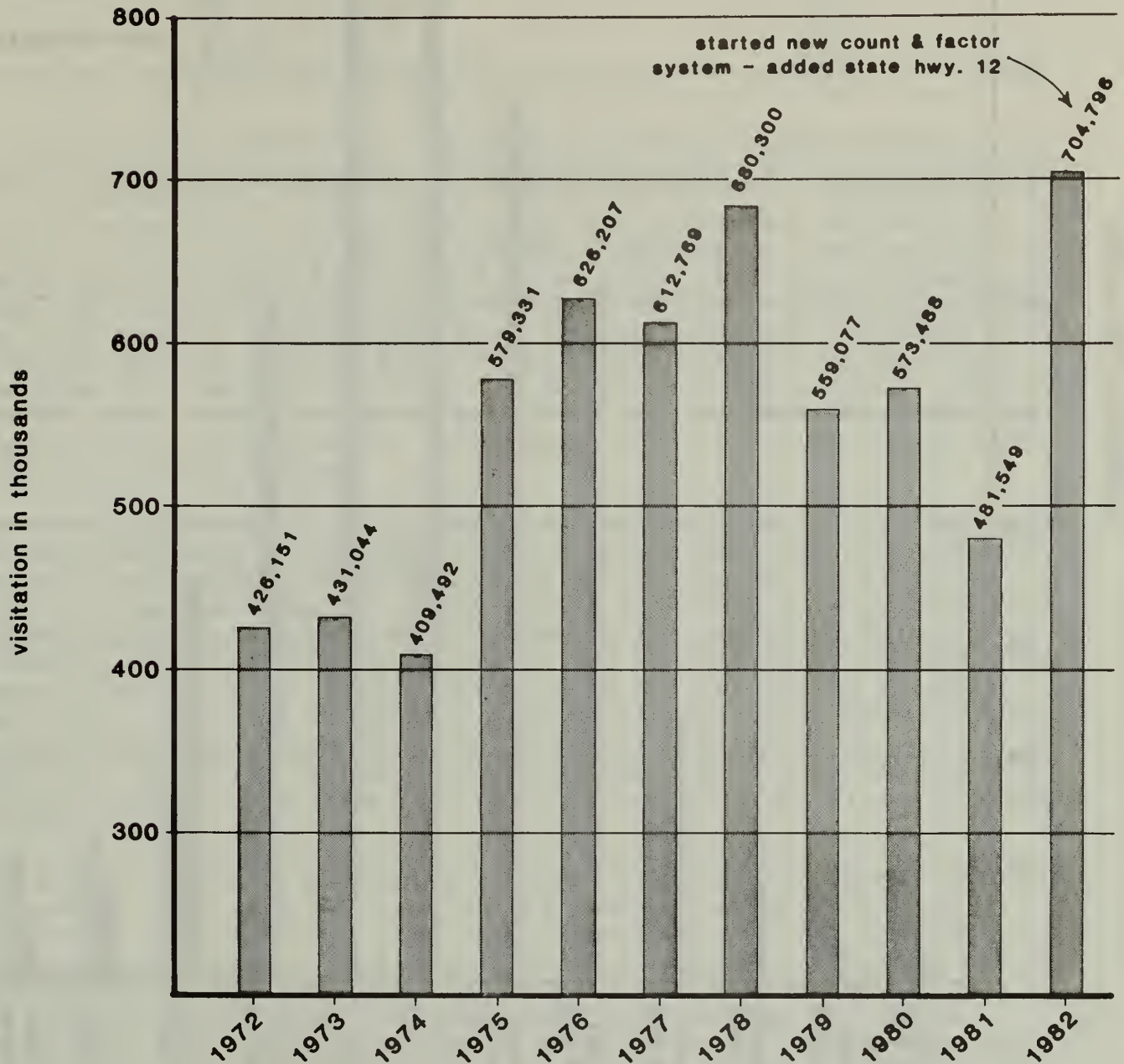
VISITATION TO VIEWPOINTS IN BRYCE CANYON NATIONAL PARK

(Percentage of Visitors Surveyed)

June - September, 1980

Point	Percent of Visitors
Fairyland View	52.7
Sunrise Point	77.8
Sunset Point	78.0
Inspiration Point	65.5
Bryce Point	72.5

Note: New count and factor system started in 1981. Thus figures for 1981 and 1982 cannot be compared to previous years directly. In 1982 the park began adding state highway 12 as non-recreational traffic to the total. Recreational figures only for 1982 are 471,517.

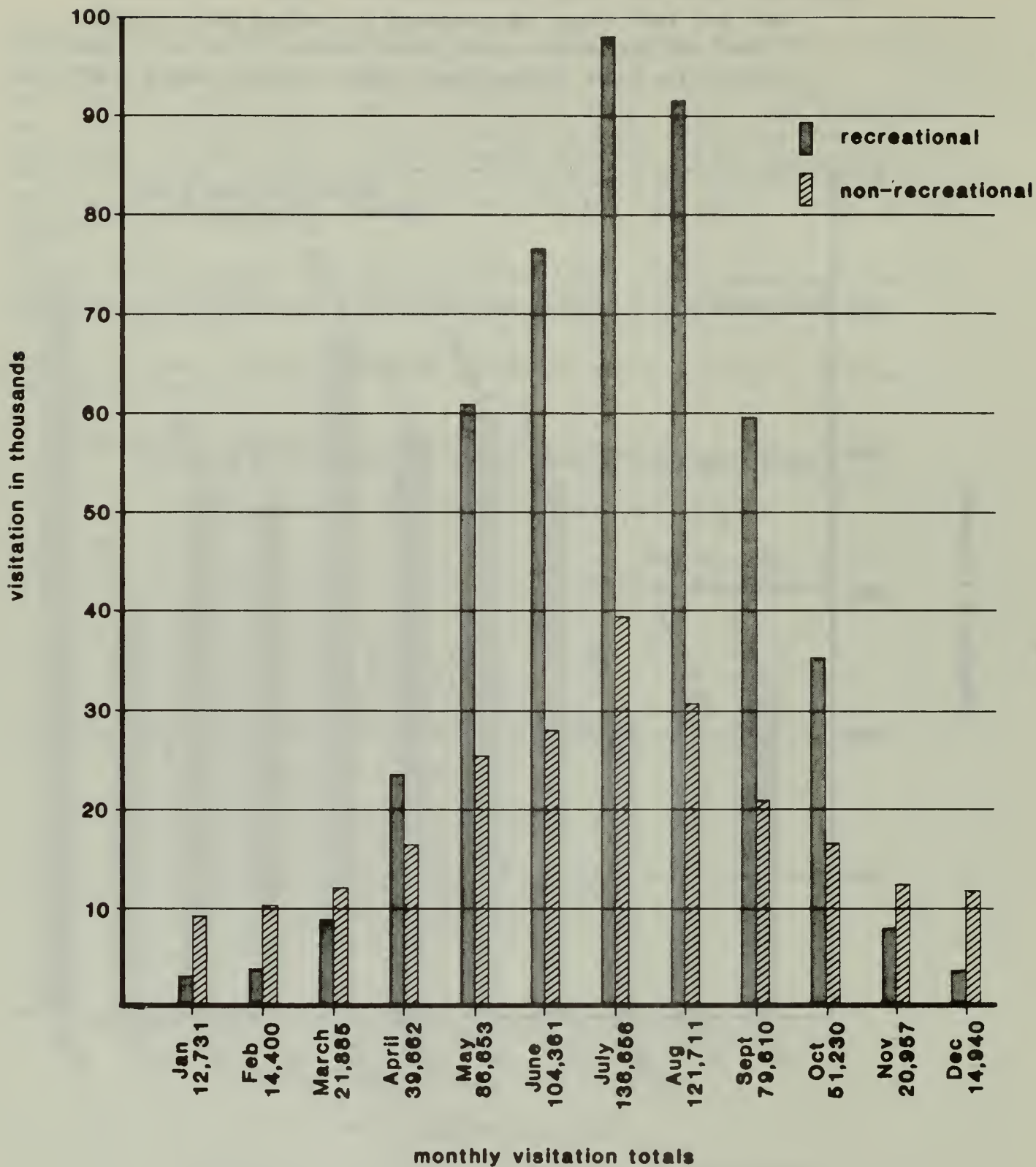


## Annual Visitation

### Bryce Canyon National Park

U.S. Dept. of the Interior - National Park Service





# Monthly Visitation 1982

Bryce Canyon National Park

U.S. Dept. of the Interior - National Park Service



Paria Point	46.3
Swamp Canyon	29.4
Farview Point	45.0
Natural Bridge	56.3
Agua Canyon	41.9
Ponderosa Canyon	33.7
Yovimpa Point	29.0
Rainbow Point	51.6
Undesignated Pullout	24.1

The peak visitor season of the park is June through September. During this period all park facilities are open, with the exception of the concessions, which operate from mid-May through September. In the off-season the park is open with all overlooks available to the public. The remaining facilities are closed except for the visitor center which is open from 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M., and one campground loop. The visitor center is open from 8:00 A.M. to 9:00 P.M. during the peak season. Visitation, June through September, averaged 4,294 visitors per day during 1978. Visitation, November through April, averaged 700 visitors per day. Visitation for the calendar year 1982 was 704,796. Bryce Canyon is presently able to meet the demands placed upon it for physical development with the exception of the road and parking system.

Examination of the origin of the visitors surveyed in the 1980 summer survey shows that Bryce Canyon is not only a national significance, but of international significance as well. Nearly 12% of the visitors who participated in the survey were from foreign countries. However, the percentage under-represents the amount of foreign visitation to the park since many of the foreign visitors that were asked to participate in the survey could not because of language barriers. It is estimated that foreign visitation to Bryce Canyon National Park may be as much as 25% of total visitation. In addition, about 43% of the visitors surveyed were from east of the Mississippi, with 8% from Utah and the remaining 36% from the western United States.

The park is a fee area with an entrance fee charged mid-May into November. User fees for camping are assessed on a honor-type self-registration system with compliance checks. Camp fees are collected all year. The 115 site North Campground is considered to be substandard and according to the environmental review for the General Management Plan the campground is scheduled for total rehabilitation. One campground is proposed to be included in the Servicewide reservation system. The average length of stay for campers and lodge guests is approximately 36 hours, while day-use visitors average about a day in the park.

#### E. Facilities and Equipment Analysis

##### 1. Nonhistoric Roads and Trails

Park roads include over 35 miles of paved and three miles of unpaved roadway. A 4.5 mile section of State Highway 12 crosses

the park. Much of the park road system is in a deteriorating condition. Park roads are plowed during the winter. Road design often does not meet modern standards.

Twelve parking area/viewpoints make most of the canyon's scenic attractions accessible to visitors.

The 65 miles of park trails allow visitors access to most of the park's main features and over 300,000 visitors annually use these trails. Most trails below the canyon rim are constructed on unstable slopes and require considerable maintenance. Horse use is permitted on about seven miles of trail.

## 2. Nonhistoric Buildings and Facilities

The park contains 164 government owned buildings. These buildings fall into two broad categories: visitor service facilities and park operational support facilities. A concise listing and description of all park buildings is available from the park's real property inventory.

All concession buildings are Service owned with the exception of a few structures owned by the horse concessioner. Most of the Service owned buildings were constructed over 40 years ago and have been remodeled and altered to some extent. Many are considered to be substandard and deteriorating, although improvements have been made since 1980.

There is adequate staff housing for Service employees with the exception of quarters for seasonal personnel. These seasonal quarters are over 40 years old, and are in need of rehabilitation. Additional seasonal housing will be needed by 1985-1986.

The park has two developed campgrounds with a total of 225 sites. There are three designated picnic areas, but none of these areas are properly or completely developed.

## 3. Utility Systems

The park's culinary water supply is obtained primarily from the East Creek well. After prolonged drought, this well has at times proven inadequate. The park, however, has water storage tank capacity adequate to meet short term shortages. Much of the main water distribution system was replaced with new pipe in 1981 and the system meets established health standards.

A developed water source on the Peek-A-Boo Loop historically consistently failed to meet health standards. Public use of this source was restricted until remedial measures could be taken to upgrade the water quality. The upgrade was accomplished as part of the 83 FY PRIP Program.

Sewage treatment involves standard septic systems and evaporation

ponds.

Electric power is provided by Garkane Power Association. Electric transmission lines are unsatisfactorily located in some areas and are being relocated or placed underground for aesthetic reasons.

The park has an adequate radio communication system. But most components of the system are becoming obsolete and the entire system will need replacement.

#### 4. Historic Structures

The park has 74 structures which have been determined eligible for inclusion into the National Register of Historic Places and are being appropriately managed under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, The National Environment Policy Act of 1969, Executive Order 11593, and the National Park Service Historic Preservation Policy.

#### 5. Equipment

The park utilizes GSA vehicles for most passenger carrying functions. Agency owned vehicles include road maintenance equipment, one fire truck, snow removal equipment and several pieces of construction/earth moving equipment for a total of 19 Agency owned vehicles.

#### F. Status of Planning

<u>Plan/Study</u>	<u>Preparer</u>	<u>Approved</u>	<u>Comment Adequacy</u>	<u>Repository</u>
General Management Plan	RMR/Park	Review of Alternatives 12/79  Amended 10/81	Ongoing	RMRO
Statement for Management	Park	Approved 03/82	Updated	RMRO/Park
Visitor Use/ Interpretive Prospectus	RMRO	10/02/81	Current	RMRO
General Development Plan		9/71-Part of GMP	Ongoing	RMRO
Concession Management Plan		Part of GMP	Ongoing	RMRO



Park Transportation/ Circulation Plan	DSC	03/07/83	Current	DSC
Land Acquisition Plan	RMRO/Park	05/80	LPP needs to be done	Park
FES/Wilderness Plan Recom- mendation	DSC	Submitted to Congress 02/72	Current	DSC
Bryce-Zion Trail Rides Conces- sion Contract	RMRO/Park		In Progress	
Water Resources Plan	RMRO		Task Direc- Sent to RMR 05/83	RMRO
Water Rights Study	RMRO	Completed 1980	Current	RMRO

Natural Resources Management

Natural Resources Management Plan	Park		Draft in RMR	Park/RMRO
Collection Management Plan	Park	Completed 04/78	Current	Park
Wildland Fire Management Plan	Park		Draft in RMR	
Vegetative Management Plan	Park		Draft in RMR	
Wildlife Management Plan	Park		Draft in RMR	
Air Quality Monitoring Plan	RMRO		RMR/WASO, Draft in RMR	

Cultural Resources Management Plan

Cultural Resources Maintenance Guide	RMRO		Underway	
Historic Furnish-	RMRO		Underway	



## ings Plan

Historic Structures Report	RMRO	Complete-1/76	Current	RMRO
Nomination of Structures to National Registry	RMRO	Eligible 10/79	Current	RMRO
Construction Archeological Survey	RMRO	Completed 08/79	Current	RMRO
Cultural Resources Management Plan	Park	08/16/82	Current	RMRO/Park

## Interpretation

Museum Exhibit Plan	RMRO		GMP - ongoing
Wayside Exhibit Plan	RMRO		GMP - ongoing

## Visitor Protection/Developed Resources

Emergency Operations Plan	Park	Planned Review 80-BRCA	Current	Park
Structural Fire Control	Park	Completed 10/81	Current	Park
Security Plan	Park	Completed 80	Current	Park

## G. Existing Management Zoning

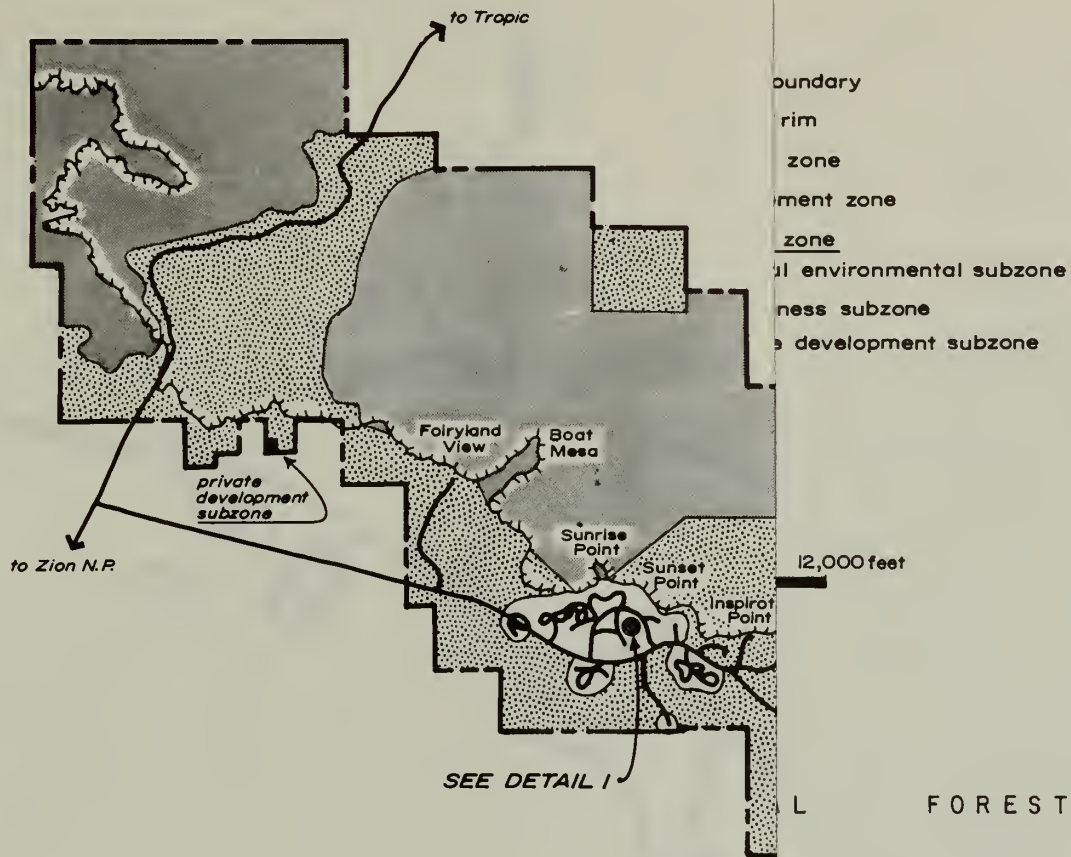
### 1. Natural Zone

Bryce Canyon National Park is managed primarily as a natural zone.

#### a. Wilderness Subzone - 62% of park (22.325 acres)

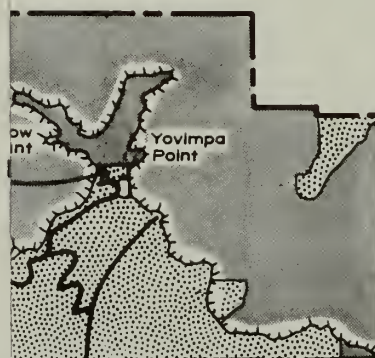
The majority of the park lands are further classified as wilderness subzone to reflect the park's wilderness recommendation. These lands are primarily located below the rim of the canyon. The Bryce Amphitheater and several other parcels of land below the rim are excluded from the wilderness subzone. Management of this zone strictly conforms to the wilderness management policy.





DIXIE

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# Existing Management Zoning Map

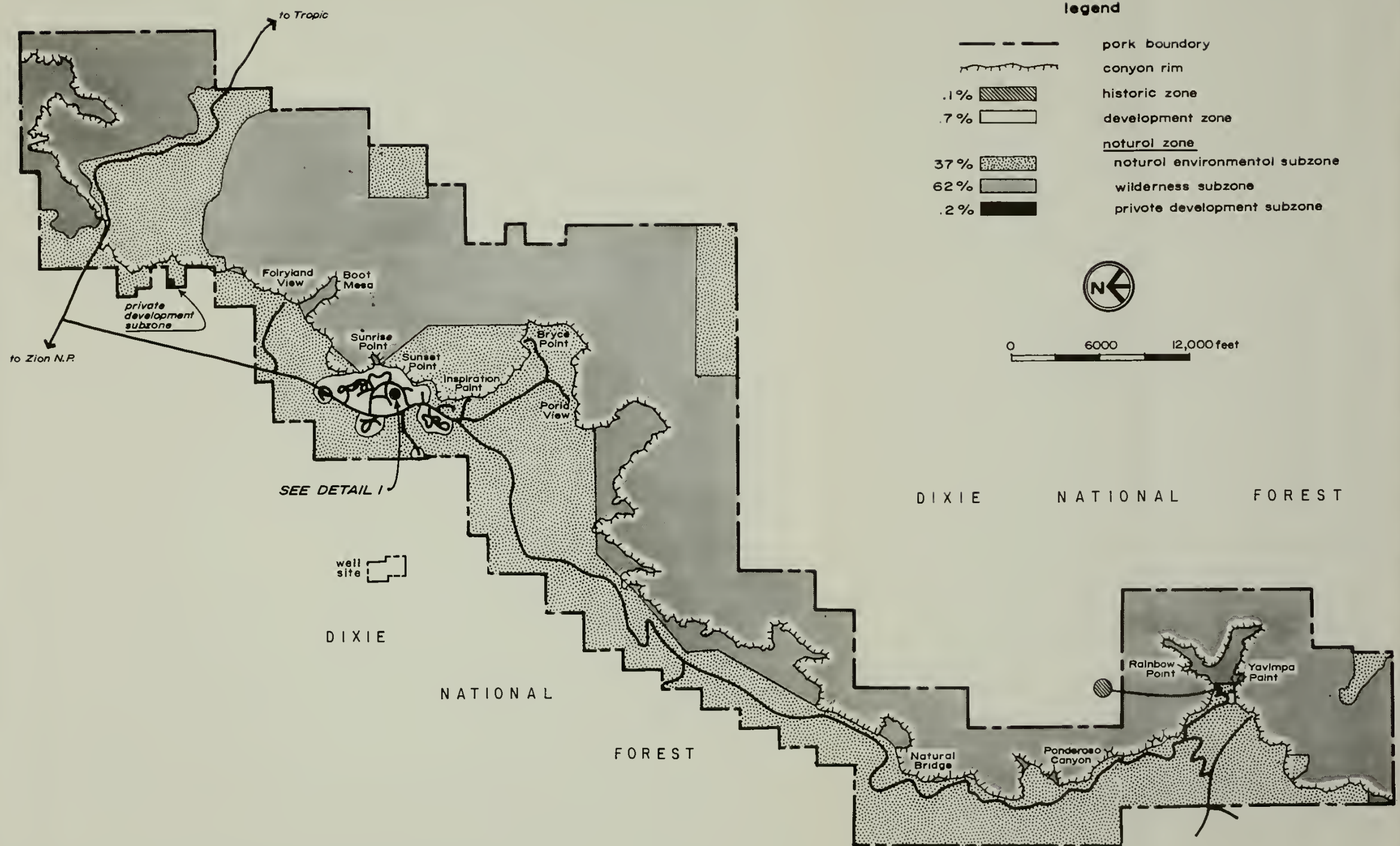
## Bryce Canyon National Park

U.S. Dept. of the Interior - National Park Service

sheet 1 of 2

129	80,035
Nov. '83	RMRO





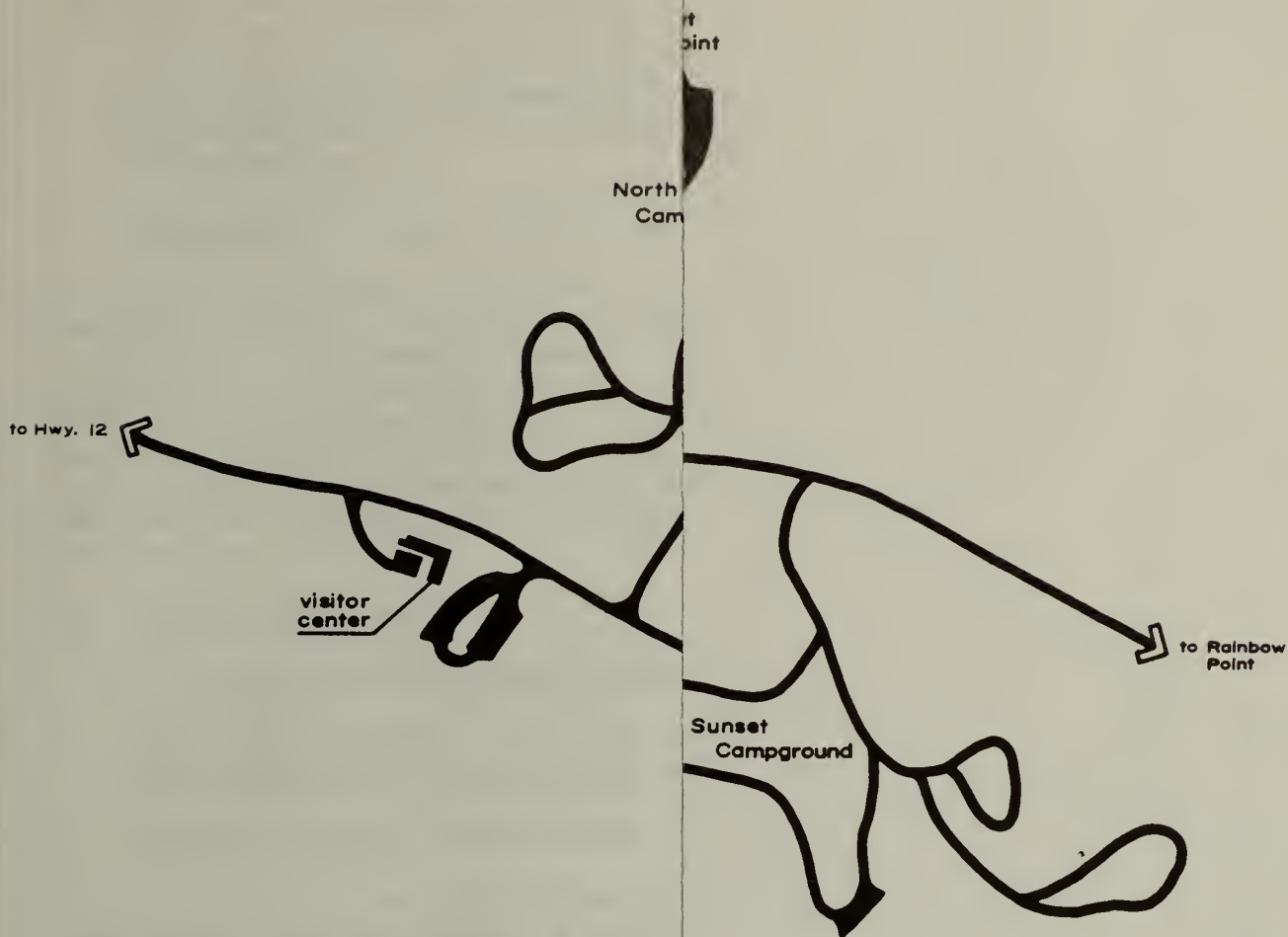
# Existing Management Zoning Map

## Bryce Canyon National Park


U.S. Dept. of the Interior - National Park Service

sheet 1 of 2

129 80,035  
Nov. '83 RMRO



# legend

- historic zone
- ① historic lodge district
- ② historic administration
- ③ historic park housing
-  overnight lodging area

ting Management Zoning Map

Detail #1

yce Canyon National Park

Dept. of the Interior - National Park Service

sheet 2 of 2

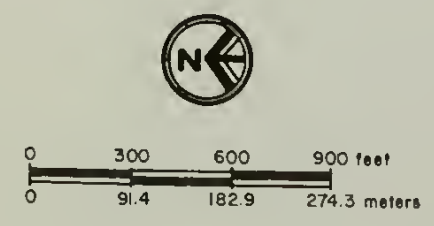
129 80,035

Nov. '83. RMRO



**legend**

- historic zone
- ① historic lodge district
- ② historic administration building
- ③ historic park housing
- ▨ overnight lodging area



**Existing Management Zoning Map**  
**Detail #1**  
**Bryce Canyon National Park**  
 U.S. Dept. of the Interior - National Park Service



b. Natural Environment Subzone - 37% of park (13,325 acres)

This zone consists of those lands not included in the wilderness subzone that are not yet developed. Most of these lands are above the escarpment rim. Management of these lands is based on preservation; that is, these lands are protected against development and lack true wilderness characteristics.

2. Development Zone - .7% of park (252 acres)

This zone is concentrated near the entrance to the park and includes the major structural improvements including concession buildings, park headquarters, visitor center, maintenance shops, campgrounds, residential areas, and related parking. The parking area and structures located on the south end of the park near Yovimpa and Rainbow Points are also identified as a development zone. This zone is managed so as to prevent excessive degradation and to permit expansion within the internal boundaries.

3. Special Use Zone

a. Private Development Subzone

This area consists of 2 1/2 acres of private lands within the park boundary. These lands are presently undeveloped.

4. Historic Zone - .1% of park (36 acres)

At the present time this zone includes a total of 74 structures that have been determined eligible for inclusion in the National Register. Most of these structures are divided into two historic districts, the Lodge District and the Old Residence District. Other eligible structures include the Old Administrative Building, Rainbow Point comfort station and overlook. A cultural resource survey was completed in 1976 and all properties of cultural significance were entered on the list of classified structures. Only a small portion of the park has been surveyed for archeological remains.

. Major Issues

A. Dump Road

Utah 12, known as the "dump road", traverses 4.5 miles at the northern portion of Bryce Canyon. This road, constructed with NPS funds in the early 1960's, is apparently inadequate for the commercial and commuter traffic loads at present. The GMP provides for the addition of 6,600 feet of passing lane to be constructed at State expense. It is expected that the State and local officials and residents will continue to try to reacquire the right-of-way and preferably have the Federal Government rebuild that section of road. Our current position is that we will permit the rebuilding of the

road with proper environmental constraints and subject to NPS plan approval. However, we will not fund that improvement.

#### B. Air Quality

The air quality program at Bryce is one of long-standing. Some of the very earliest attempts by the National Park Service to monitor air quality occurred at Bryce Canyon during the 60's. While the park takes extensive telephotometer readings and various other types of air quality monitoring, there is still a general lack of good base data within the park caused by development in the immediate area or in the Regional setting.

#### C. Alton and Energy Related Problems

The Alton coal controversy of 1979 and 80 has been placed somewhat on the back burner. We can expect, however, for this problem to resurface as well as potential threats of nearby oil development, slurry lines, transportation corridors, etc. This will require vigilant action on behalf of both the Region and the park.

#### D. Horse Concession

The horse concession was not judged during the GMP process to be one of a major concern. However, with the now known damage to the resource and the inadequacy of the trail system, it is important that the subject of the horse concessioner be looked at in the very near future. The contract expires at the end of 1984 and decisions as to modifications must be made and a program to implement changes established.

#### E. Seasonal Housing

During the Master Plan studies in the 50's and early 60's a plan was developed for adequate seasonal and permanent housing within Bryce Canyon. For various reasons the plan was never implemented. A number of permanent residences were not started although the utility systems were constructed, and similarly, two apartment houses for seasonal employees were never built although again utilities lines are in place. During the period from about 1964-65 until current, there was adequate seasonal housing available by utilizing unused permanent housing. This situation has now changed with the hiring of new key maintenance people.

This has created, in 1983, a shortage of seasonal housing. This problem will accelerate and reach critical levels by 1985 or 86. A tentative solution requiring further study will be the relocation of the Frontier cabins into another area, modernization of same, and utilized for seasonal housing.

#### F. Road Status

From a development standpoint the road system remains one of the more serious problems in the park. The transportation study conducted in

the last few years indicates that mass transit is not a viable alternative at Bryce Canyon, hence the roads must be upgraded to meet the traffic volumes, size, etc., including associated parking. This must be moved into higher priority level if we are to continue to be able to handle current visitor loads.

#### G. Concessions Development

While the question of future overnight accommodations has been resolved and contract negotiations are currently underway, the overall future of the entire operation must be evaluated on a periodic basis to avoid finding ourselves in the same shape as the early 1970's, in which facilities had reached a point of substandard operation.

#### Management Objectives

1. To secure, through research or other means, adequate information to increase management efficiency and to ensure conservation of park resources.
2. To cooperate with outside agencies, organizations, and members of the public in (a) assuring, to the greatest extent possible, that nearby lands are developed and managed in ways that are compatible with preserving the park's air and water quality, geological resources, ecological communities, solitude, extreme quiet, and the scenery for which the park is famous; (b) minimizing the adverse effects of public use on the park's resources through the provision of recreational lodging, and other visitor service facilities in the park's vicinity; and (c) disseminating information about the park to the general public, with particular emphasis on the regional community.
3. To protect and enhance the natural and scenic values of the park by maintaining an adequate land base to permit achievement of the park's purpose, and acquiring outstanding mineral interests on the lands providing culinary water supply for the park.
4. To protect park resources and the safety of park visitors through enforcement of applicable laws, rules and regulations in the park.
5. Provide for the visitor's enjoyment and appreciation of park resources through primary interpretive emphasis on the park's geomorphology, but provide also for an understanding of the park's geology, natural history, history and archeology.
6. Develop a fire management program for the park to facilitate the protection and maintenance of the natural environment including, as necessary, research fire burns to determine the need for, the effectiveness and desirability of, and the problems associated with implementing a prescribed fire management program within the park.
7. Retain those facilities necessary for visitor use and park management at acceptable standards for health, safety and comfort;



and maintain historic structures as near as practicable to their original exterior appearance consistent with the adaptive use of these buildings.

8. Provide the visiting public, through concession operated facilities, the highest quality of accommodations, food service and visitor needs consistent with reasonable pricing and comparability with local business.

9. Insure a representative proportion of minorities and female employees, both seasonal and permanent.

BRYCE CANYON NATIONAL MONUMENT—UTAH<sup>1</sup>  
BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

A PROCLAMATION

[No. 1664—June 8, 1923—43 Stat. 1914]

WHEREAS, certain lands within the Powell National Forest, in the State of Utah, known as Bryce Canyon, are of unusual scenic beauty, scientific interest and importance, and it appears that the public interests will be promoted by reserving these areas with as much land as may be necessary for the proper protection thereof as a national monument;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Warren G. Harding, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the power in me vested by section two of the Act of Congress approved June eight, nineteen hundred and six, entitled "An Act for the preservation of American antiquities", do proclaim that there are hereby reserved from all forms of appropriation under the public land laws, subject to all prior valid adverse claims, and set apart as a National Monument to be known as Bryce Canyon National Monument, all of the tracts of land in the State of Utah which are shown on the diagram forming a part hereof.

The reservation made by this proclamation is not intended to prevent the use of the lands for National Forest purposes under the proclamation establishing the Powell National Forest, and the two reservations shall both be effective on the land withdrawn, but the National Monument hereby established shall be the dominant reservation and any use of the land which interferes with its preservation or protection as a National Monument is hereby forbidden.

Warning is hereby given to all unauthorized persons not to appropriate, injure, deface, remove or destroy any feature of this National Monument or to locate or settle on any of the lands reserved by this proclamation.

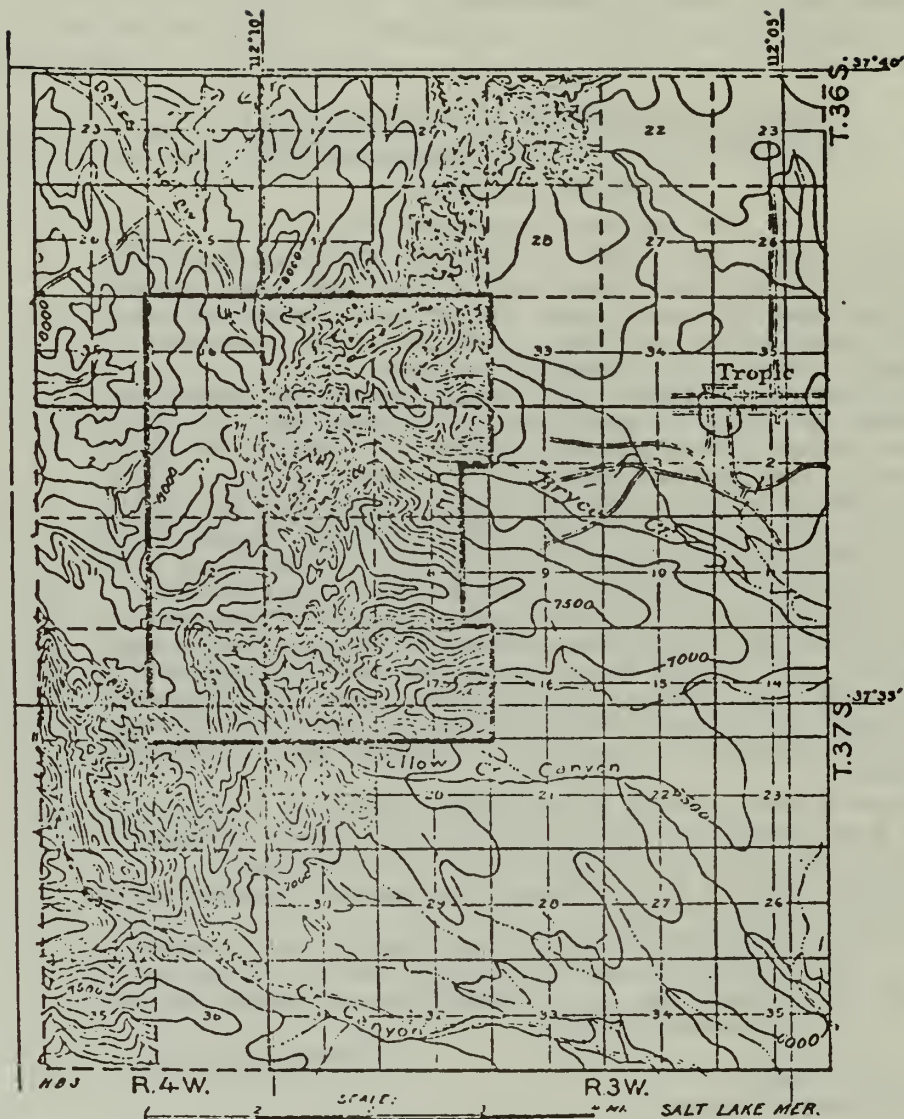
IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the United States to be affixed.

DONE at the City of Washington this eighth day of June, in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and twenty-three, and of  
[SEAL] the Independence of the United States of America the one hundred and forty-seventh.

WARREN G. HARDING.

By the President:

CHARLES E. HUGHES,  
*Secretary of State.*



U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
 FOREST SERVICE  
**BRYCE CANYON NATIONAL MONUMENT**  
 WITHIN  
 POWELL NATIONAL FOREST  
 UTAH  
 APPROX. AREA - 7,440 ACRES  
 ——— National Monument Boundary  
 DIAGRAM FORMING A PART OF PROCLAMATION DATED JUNE 8, 1923



An Act To establish the Utah National Park in the State of Utah,  
approved June 7, 1924 (43 Stat. 593)

Utah National  
Park.

Lands set apart  
as.

(Amended by 45  
Stat. 147, and  
45 Stat. 802.  
See pp. 261 and  
261.)

Description.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That there is hereby reserved and withdrawn from settlement, occupancy or disposal under the laws of the United States and dedicated and set apart as a public park for the benefit and enjoyment of the people, under the name of the "Utah National Park," the tract of land in the State of Utah particularly described by and included within metes and bounds, as follows, to wit:

Unsurveyed sections 31 and 32, township 36 south, range 3 west; surveyed section 36, township 36 south, range 4 west; north half, southwest quarter and west half of the southeast quarter of partially surveyed section 5; unsurveyed sections 6 and 7, west half, west half of the northeast quarter, and west half of the southwest quarter of partially surveyed section 8, partially surveyed section 17 and unsurveyed section 18, township 37 south, range 3 west; and unsurveyed sections 1, 12, and 13, township 37 south, range 4, all west of the Salt Lake meridian, in the State of Utah: *Provided*, That all the land within the exterior boundaries of the aforesaid tract shall first become the property of the United States.

*Proviso.*  
Title to be  
secured.

Administration,  
etc., under Na-  
tional Park  
Service.  
Vol. 80, p. 636.  
See p. 9.

SEC. 2. That the administration, protection, and promotion of said Utah National Park shall be exercised under the direction of the Secretary of the Interior by the National Park Service, subject to the provisions of the Act of August 25, 1916, entitled "An Act to establish a National Park Service, and for other purposes."

No valid claim,  
etc., affected.

SEC. 3. That nothing herein contained shall affect any valid existing claim, location, or entry under the land laws of the United States, whether for homestead, mineral, right of way, or any other purpose whatsoever, or shall affect the rights of any such claimant, locator, or entryman to the full use and enjoyment of his land:

*Proviso.*

*Provided*, That the Secretary of the Interior is hereby

authorized to exchange, in his discretion, alienated lands in this and Zion National Park for unappropriated and unreserved public lands of equal value and approximately equal area in the State of Utah outside of said parks. (U.S.C., title 16, sec. 346.)

Exchange of  
alienated lands  
in, and Zion  
Park, for other  
lands.

An Act To change the name of the Utah National Park, the establishment of which is provided for by the Act of Congress approved June 7, 1924 (Forty-third Statutes, page 593), to the "Bryce Canyon National Park," and for other purposes, approved February 25, 1928 (45 Stat. 147)

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That the area within the State of Utah described in the Act of Congress approved June 7, 1924 (Forty-third Statutes, page 593), providing for the establishment of the Utah National Park, shall be, when established as a national park, known as the Bryce Canyon National Park. (U.S.C., 6th supp., title 16, sec. 402a.)

Bryce Canyon  
National Park,  
Utah.

Utah National  
Park to be known  
as.

SEC. 2. That the east half east half section 25, township 36 south, range 4 west; the east half southwest quarter section 20, and all of sections 21, 29, and 30, township 36 south, range 3 west; all of sections 24 and 25, township 37 south, range 4 west; and all of sections 19 and 30, township 37 south, range 3 west, Salt Lake meridian, be, and the same are hereby, excluded from the Powell National Forest and made a part of the Bryce Canyon National Park, subject to the provisions of the aforesaid Act of Congress approved June 7, 1924. (U.S.C., 6th supp., title 16, sec. 402b.)

Vol. 43, p. 598,  
amended. See  
p. 260.

Areas excluded  
from Powell Na-  
tional Forest and  
added to Bryce  
Canyon Park.

SEC. 3. That unsurveyed sections 28 and 33, township 36 south, range 3 west, and section 20, township 37 south, range 3 west, Salt Lake meridian, public lands of the United States, be, and the same are hereby, added to and made a part of the Bryce Canyon National Park subject to the provisions of the aforesaid Act of Congress approved June 7, 1924. (U.S.C., 6th supp., title 16, sec. 402c.)

Other lands  
added to park.



## DATE DUE

[illegible]















